going to be involved in these projects. This is my first supplementary.

SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member about the time-frame that the CEA gives to itself when a complete application comes. Many times, applications are not complete. Specially when it comes to applications for techno-economic clearances, details and clarification are often sought. Within 60 days of an application being made, normally it is supposed to be cleared. But what happens is, they send it back for clarifications and details. But I would like to point out, historically, the improvement in figures and performance of the CEA in clearing projects. The details that have been given to you are for the year 1997-98. In fact, in 1992-93, 10 projects were cleared; in 1993-94, they were 17; in 1994-95, 8; in 1995-96, 8; in 1996-97, 7; and in 1997-98, they have been 23. From April 1 to date, we have cleared seven projects already. The CEA has moved very fast on it.

With regard to the amount of foreign exchange involved or invested in these projects, it can be pointed out when the projects complete the final closure because the final adjustments are done only at that particular period of time.

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Sir, my second supplementary is in regard to part (d) of my question. The Central Electricity Authority has received suggestions and proposals in respect of 22 States which involve production of electricity to the tune of about 4800 MW. I would like to know when these particular proposals are to be cleared by the CEA. I would also like to know whether the Government has made any survey. What was the demand in the year 1950 and what is the present demand? What is the difference in the demands?

SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry, on the demand difference between 1950 and today, the figures are not available with me now. But I shall definitely get the same and pass them on to the hon. Member. But, with regard to the proposals that are pending, the 22 proposals that have been mentioned, I can assure the hon. Member that as and when the clarifications are being sought, when the detailed project reports come, we should keep to the same deadline of two months and clear the same. With regard to the present shortage on demand, I would like to inform the Member that it is 11.7 per cent working out to around 7,000 MW approximately.

This is quite a large amount, not a small amount. The projection for the end of the Ninth Plan is, according to the Planning Commission, 57,000 megawatts. But keeping in mind various other additions which are coming up because of the PLF improvement, we believe that an additional capacity of 40,000 megawatts would meet the demand by the end of the Ninth Plan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Custodial deaths

*305. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of custodial deaths, including deaths caused by harassment and ill-treatment at the hands of investigating and enforcement agencies in Delhi and other parts of the country during 1997 and 1998, so far;

(b) the number of cases which have been cited by the National Human Rights Commission and other Human Rights bodies; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent and avoid such deaths and uncalled for harassment and use of third degree methods to extract confession?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) According to the information received from the National Human Rights Commission, 191 deaths took place in police custody in the country during the year 1997. The number of deaths in police custody during the current year (from January, 1998 to May, 1998) was 67.

2. "Police" is a State subject as per the Constitution of India. The investigation of cases and interrogation of suspects involved therein is primarily done by the State Police agencies. It is essentially the responsibility of the State Governments to ensure that their police personnel do not resort to human rights violations during interrogation. The Union Government has been issuing guidelines to the State Governments, from time to time, to the effect that their police personnel should conduct themselves in a humane manner and that cases of police excesses should be taken serious note of and dealt with promptly and firmly. Human rights as a subject has also been included in the training curricula of police personnel.

Converting INS Vikrant into a Maritime Museum

*306. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal to the Central Government to convert INS Vikrant into a maritime museum; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The proposal as submitted by Government of Maharashtra is estimated to cost Rs. 76 crores. The proposal comprises of two main parts, condonation of Rs. 18 Crores being scrap value of the ship by Government of India, and approval of the Mumbai Port Trust for locational clearance for grouting the ship. Both these issues are under active consideration of Government of India.

Guidelines for freedom fighters' pension

*307. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question 103 alongwith the supplementaries in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd June, 1998, and state:

(a) the guidelines for sanction of freedom fighters pension before and after 31st March, 1982; and

(b) how many applications are pending from Tamil Nadu and the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) *Gudelines for sanction of freedom fighers' pension before and after 31st March, 1982:*

I. *Before 31.3.1982 i.e. under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980.*

The Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 provides for grant of pension to living freedom fighters, their families if they (Freedom Fighters) are no more alive and to the families of martyrs. The eligibility conditions for grant of Samman Pension under this Scheme are as under:—

(a) A person who has suffered a minimum imprisonment of six months in the mainland jails before Independence. However, ex-INA or ex-Military personnel will be eligible for pension if the imprisonment/detention suffered by them was outside India.

(b) A person who remained underground fox six months or more provided he was (i) a proclaimed offender; or (ii) one on whom an award for arrest/head was announced; or (iii) one whose detention order was issued but not served.